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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Erik LABERGERIE, Philippe LEFEVRE and Jose LIS

Serial No.: Not yet assigned
(claiming priority of French Appln. No. FR 00 03954, filed March 29, 2000)

Filed: (on even date herewith)

For: **PULVERULENT MANNITOL AND PROCESS FOR PREPARING IT**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-identified application, kindly amend the application as follows:

AMENDMENT

In the Claims:

Please substitute the following claims 6 and 7 for the pending claims 6 and 7:

Claim 6. (Amended) Excipient in preparation intended in particular for a pharmaceutical field, comprising pulverulent mannitol according to Claim 1.

Claim 7. (Amended) Excipient for powder for filling hard capsules, comprising pulverulent mannitol according to Claim 1.